Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of one-year outcomes in chronic heart failure: the portrait of a middle income country

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Reviewer: Flavia Ballocca

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting manuscript on outcomes' predictors in patients with heart failure enrolled at an outpatient clinic in Brazil. The overall results are in line with findings reported in other populations; nevertheless some issues should be addressed:

- only 700 patients have been enrolled of more than 2000 screened; could the authors provide some details about the reasons for the exclusion? And how did you managed the data of the 67 patients that had only the first telephone contact?

- a significant number of patients had a chagasic etiology: even though the results regarding heart failure etiologies is beyond the purpose of this article, it would be useful to add some data on this form of heart failure, as long as it is peculiar of the Brazilian population and differs in its clinical course and prognosis from other forms of HF;

- is the table reporting drug therapy comprehensive of all medications taken by the patients? Because no antiplatelet therapy is reported, while more than 20% of the patients have ischemic disease;

- were all variables studied tested in the univariate analysis?

- no data on previous history- like previous admission for heart failure - or other relevant comorbidities - like lung disease - (except for renal failure) are reported, while these variables may play a role in survival, as demonstrated by some publications like Dokainish "Global mortality variations in patients with heart failure: results from the International Congestive Heart Failure (INTER-CHF) prospective cohort study"
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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